



National Agricultural Statistics Service  
New Mexico Statistical Office

# Weekly Ag Update

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1-800-530-8810

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## INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE - APRIL 4, 2005

Crop Weather      Agricultural Prices Received      Prospective Plantings

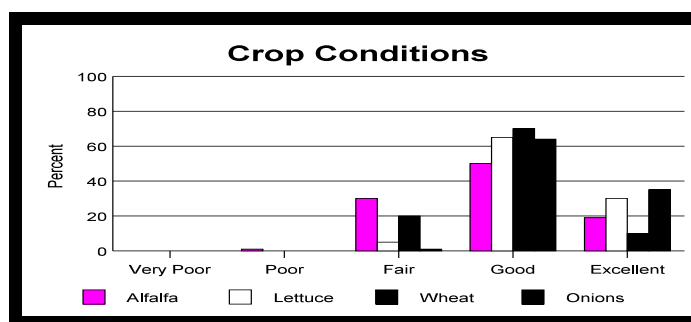
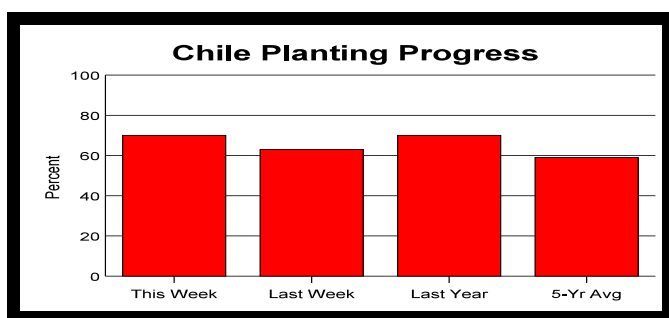
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## CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 3, 2005

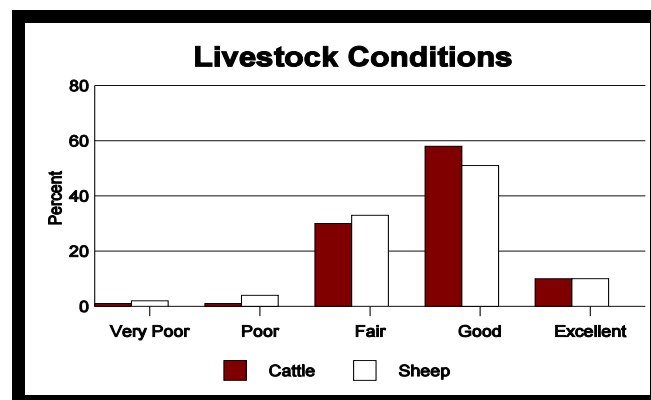
**NEW MEXICO:** There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture was 2% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, and 5% surplus. Freeze damage was 7% light, 17% moderate and 1% severe. Wind damage was 16% light, 27% moderate and 3% severe. Farmers were busy with land preparation, planting chile, working on ditches and irrigating alfalfa. Alfalfa was in fair to excellent condition and the first cutting was 23% complete. Lettuce was listed as 5% fair, 65% good and 30% excellent. Onions were 64% good, 35% excellent, and 100% planted. Chile was 70% planted and was listed in mostly fair to excellent condition. Wheat was in mostly good condition and 35% was being grazed. Ranchers were busy watering branding and maintaining herds. Supplemental feeding is decreasing. Cattle were listed as 1% very poor, 1% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, and 10% excellent. Sheep were 2% very poor, 4% poor, 33% fair, 51% good and 10% excellent. Range and pasture was listed as 3% very poor, 12% poor, 37% fair, 45% good, and 3% excellent. There was a lot of wind, rain and snow especially in the north east part of the state.

## CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE	Planted	70	63	70	59
COTTON	Planted	4	N/A	5	5
WHEAT (ALL)	Grazed	35	51	27	N/A

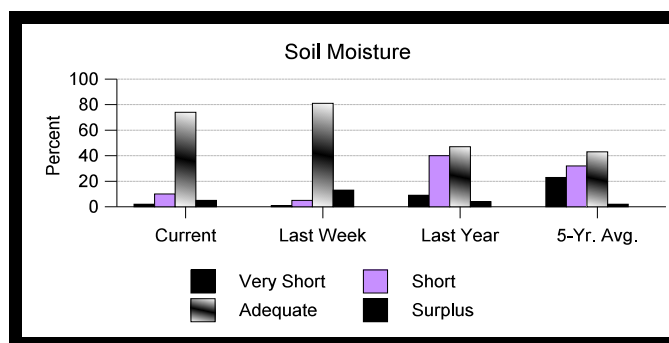


CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES					
	Very	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	--	1	30	50	19
Chile	--	--	60	22	18
Lettuce	--	--	5	65	30
Onions	--	--	1	64	35
Wheat (All)	--	--	20	70	10
Cattle	1	1	30	58	10
Sheep	2	4	33	51	10
Range/Pasture	3	12	37	45	3



# SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	2	8	87	3
Northeast	--	19	78	3
Southwest	4	35	56	5
Southeast	2	16	72	10
State Current	2	19	74	5
State-Last Week	1	5	81	13
State-Last Year	9	40	47	4
State-5-Yr Avg.	23	32	43	2



## WEATHER SUMMARY

Relatively cool weather continued over New Mexico for much of the week, with the statewide temperature averaging between 5 and 6 degrees below normal. Warmer weather developed late in the week, and afternoon readings hit 80 degrees at Tucumcari and Tatum on the 3rd. Precipitation was spotty and light over most of the state, but a winter storm brought heavier precipitation to the northeast quarter of New Mexico around mid-week. Raton (.66") and Red River (.52") were the only locations that measured over a quarter of an inch of moisture. Note: Weekly average temperatures for stations with missing data are incorrect.

## NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - MARCH 28 - APRIL 3, 2005

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	03/28	03/01	Normal	01/01	Normal
				04/03	04/03	Apr	04/03	Jan-Apr
Farmington	44.9	75	20	0.04	0.00	0.51	3.40	2.48
Gallup	42.3	71	20	0.02	0.00	0.64	5.48	3.23
Capulin	37.1	65	22	0.02	0.00	1.01	2.80	2.86
Chama	34.8	61	7	0.10	0.00	1.27	9.36	6.61
Johnson Ranch	39.7	69	16	0.04	0.00	0.49	3.71	2.47
Las Vegas	41.9	68	16	0.00	0.00	0.83	3.76	2.54
Los Alamos	38.3	61	22	0.01	0.00	1.00	6.77	3.88
Raton	38.7	69	2	0.66	0.00	1.06	4.26	2.90
Red River	31.4	56	1	0.52	0.00	1.68	7.26	5.75
Santa Fe	40.1	67	16	0.03	0.00	0.81	5.62	2.87
Clayton	48.4	75	26	0.19	0.00	0.94	3.19	2.04
Clovis	50.1	76	29	0.05	0.05	0.81	4.62	2.30
Roy	43.8	71	19	0.00	0.00	0.82	4.54	2.14
Tucumcari	51.4	80	28	0.22	0.22	0.87	5.14	2.00
Grants	40.4	70	11	0.03	0.00	0.45	3.58	1.95
Quemado	41.7	66	14	0.00	0.00	0.60	3.27	2.95
Silver City	45.7	69	20	0.00	0.00	0.53	7.66	3.90
Albuquerque	48.4	71	28	0.00	0.00	0.52	4.24	1.96
Carrizozo	47.0	68	24	0.00	0.00	0.36	5.78	2.10
Socorro	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.36	3.40	1.41
Gran Quivera	43.4	68	17	0.01	0.00	0.64	5.25	2.88
Moriarty	41.4	69	13	0.00	0.00	0.66	4.86	2.10
Ruidoso	44.6	65	15	0.00	0.00	0.63	6.05	4.24
Carlsbad	53.8	80	28	0.02	0.02	0.49	3.02	1.49
Roswell	50.6	79	25	0.00	0.00	0.65	2.64	1.99
Tatum	54.5	80	31	0.00	0.00	0.64	2.49	2.05
Alamogordo	53.4	72	31	0.00	0.00	0.26	4.61	1.93
Animas	53.4	76	34	0.00	0.00	0.20	4.67	1.86
Deming	52.4	79	31	0.00	0.00	0.18	3.21	1.54
Las Cruces	52.1	79	33	0.00	0.00	0.21	3.60	1.26
T or C	53.3	77	31	0.00	0.00	0.22	2.67	1.40

(T) Trace (-) No Report (\*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

## PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

**NEW MEXICO:** Corn growers intend to plant 120,000 acres of corn for all purposes in 2005, down 4 percent from 2004. Sorghum is expected to hold at 140,000 planted acres. Winter wheat planted acreage is also unchanged in 2005, at 490,000 acres. Peanut intended plantings are up 6 percent to 18,000 acres. Upland cotton producers intend to plant 2,000 more acres for a total of 70,000 acres. Pima cotton acreage is expected to be down 6 percent this year to 10,000 acres. All hay to be harvested intentions are estimated at 330,000 acres for 2005.

**UNITED STATES:** Corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 81.4 million acres, up 1 percent from 2004 and 4 percent above 2003. If realized, this would be largest corn acreage since 1985. Expected acreage is up from last year throughout much of the Corn Belt and southern Great Plains. All wheat planted area is expected to total 58.6 million acres in 2005, down 2 percent from 2004. All cotton plantings for 2005 are expected to total 13.8 million acres, 1 percent above last year. Upland acreage is expected to total 13.5 million acres, also up 1 percent. American-Pima cotton growers intend to increase their plantings 10 percent from 2004, to 275,000 acres. Peanut producers intend to plant 1.60 million acres of peanuts in 2005, up 12 percent from last year. The 2005 intended sorghum area planted for all purposes is estimated at 7.40 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. Hay producers expect to harvest 62.9 million acres of all hay in 2005, up 2 percent from last year.

**Crop Summary, Acres Planted, New Mexico and U.S., 2003-2005**

	New Mexico				United States			
	2003	2004	2005 <sup>1/</sup>	2005/2004	2003	2004	2005 <sup>1/</sup>	2005/2004
	-----1,000 Acres-----		--Percent--		-----1,000 Acres-----		--Percent--	
Corn	130	125	120	96	78,603	80,930	81,413	101
Sorghum	140	140	140	100	9,420	7,486	7,400	99
Oats	---	---	---	---	4,597	4,085	4,267	104
Barley	---	---	---	---	5,348	4,527	3,974	88
All Wheat	500	490	490	100	62,141	59,674	58,592	98
Winter	500	490	490	100	45,384	43,350	41,613	96
Other Spring	---	---	---	---	13,842	13,763	14,371	104
Soybeans	---	---	---	---	73,404	75,208	73,910	98
Peanuts	18.0	17.0	18.0	106	1,344.0	1,430.0	1,597.0	112
All Cotton	59.1	78.6	80.0	102	13,479.6	13,658.6	13,815.0	101
Upland	53.0	68.0	70.0	103	13,301.0	13,409.0	13,540.0	101
A-P	6.1	10.6	10.0	94	178.6	249.6	275.0	110
All Hay <sup>2/</sup>	300	330	330	100	63,383	61,916	62,940	102

<sup>1/</sup> Intended plantings in 2005 as indicated by reports from farmers. <sup>2/</sup> Intended area harvested in 2005 as indicated by reports from farmers.

### AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

Alfalfa hay prices in March averaged \$124.00 per ton, \$1.00 above the previous month's price of \$123.00. All hay prices in march averaged \$121.00 per ton, also \$1.00 above the February 2005 price. Cow prices in the state dropped by \$0.90 to \$53.70 per hundredweight, but were still above the national average of \$53.60 per hundredweight. Steer and heifer prices increased by \$1.00 to \$105.00 per hundredweight. This compares to the national average price of \$96.30. Calf prices rose by \$4.00 from \$126.00 in February to \$130.00 in March. The national average for March was \$132.00. Milk prices in the state for March were \$15.60 per hundredweight, an increase of \$0.90 over the previous month's price and in line with the national average price which also came in at \$15.60 per hundredweight.

**Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2005 and March 2004-05**

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. <sup>1/</sup>
		Mar 2004 <sup>2/</sup>	Feb 2005 <sup>2/</sup>	Mar 2005 <sup>1/</sup>	Mar
-----Dollars-----					
<b>CROPS</b>					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	—	—	—	3.17
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	—	—	—	.422
Potatoes	Cwt.	—	—	—	6.16
Hay, all baled	Ton	139.00	120.00	121.00	89.10
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	142.00	123.00	124.00	96.40
Peanuts	Lb.	—	—	—	.186
Corn	Bu.	—	—	—	2.03
Wheat, all	Bu.	—	—	—	3.53
<b>LIVESTOCK</b>					
Sheep <sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	—	—	—	51.30
Lambs <sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	—	—	—	114.00
Cows	Cwt.	48.00	54.60	53.70	53.60
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	93.50	104.00	105.00	96.30
Calves	Cwt.	111.00	126.00	130.00	132.00
Milk	Cwt.	14.40	14.70	15.60	15.60

<sup>1/</sup> Mid-month <sup>2/</sup> Entire month <sup>3/</sup> March - entire month